



Buckden Pike

Stroll along the banks of the Wharfe, passing through the Dales village of Starbotton. The walk then becomes a strenuous climb, ascending Buckden Pike

Essential Facts

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| ▪ Route distance: | 16.3 km (10.2 miles) |
| ▪ Approximate time: | 4 hours 30 mins |
| ▪ Approx. total ascent: | 550 metres |
| ▪ Start point Grid Ref: | SD 968 723 |
| ▪ GPS Ref: | SD 96800 72290 |
| ▪ Recommended O.S. Map: | Explorer OL 30 |
| ▪ Toughness Rating | Yorkshire Dales 4 |

Please see the notes on Toughness Ratings at the end of this report

Up For A
CHALLENGE?

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your favourite charity with

A Donation
An Individual Walk
A Team Effort

Full Info from the Great Walks web site

THE ROUTE

From the village of Kettlewell, **S**, cross the road bridge that goes over the River Wharfe and take the path that follows the river upstream. The river should be on the right.

The path is obvious and is the Dales Way. After approximately 3.0 km, a footbridge crosses the Wharfe. Here leave the Dales Way and cross the bridge; signed Starbotton.

Follow the enclosed path to emerge onto the road. Cross the road and take the minor road opposite, **A**. Where the road forks, bear right. Straight ahead when there is a road on the left and a bridleway on the right.

Another road comes in from the left. If you wish to visit the village pub then go down this road and the pub is at the corner where this road meets the main road.

To continue the walk, without liquid refreshments, then ignore this road on the left and go over a small bridge; signed "Footpath Out Moor Mine 2, leading to Bridleway to Walden Head 5 ½"

Bear right onto a concrete track and climb steeply.

When the hill becomes less steep a finger post appear at **B**. Keep on the track signed "Walden Head 4". Unfortunately, you are not going uphill extremely fast but one of the signs is fibbing! The distance between the posts is half a mile not one and a half miles!!

The walk now follows a wall either on its right or left.

After passing through a gate/gateway a substantial cairn is met. Just a few yards further on a damp area is encountered. Here is a fork; **C** go left on the stony track. After a second cairn the path becomes indistinct and boggy. After crossing this relatively flat terrain, the path appears again on an ascent. At the top of this climb is a broken sheep pen or wind break. From here, go through the crossing wall to reach another wall with a gate. Go through the gate and turn left and follow the wall uphill to reach the memorial cross.

Go left over the stile and follow the wall to the summit of Buckden Pike at **D**.

Return from the summit to the gate beyond the memorial cross. Don't go through the gate but follow the wall, keeping the wall on the right.

Go over a ladder stile.

Keep the wall on the right to reach another ladder stile. Here drop to the left where there is a meeting of tracks with a finger post, **E**. Take the track signed to Kettlewell.

Follow this track, dropping down into Kettlewell. Just before Kettlewell the track reaches a road. Carry on down in the same direction and the road brings you back to the centre of Kettlewell, **S**.



**The Memorial
At Buckden Pike**

Refreshment

The Fox and Hounds
Public house
Starbotton
Tel: 01756 760269
May be closed mid week
Food

Blue Bell Inn
Public House
Kettlewell
Tel: 01756 760230
Food

Racehorses
Hotel
Kettlewell
Tel: 01756 760233
Food



The Devonshire Arms Hotel

LOCAL INFO

The Memorial Cross on Buckden Pike

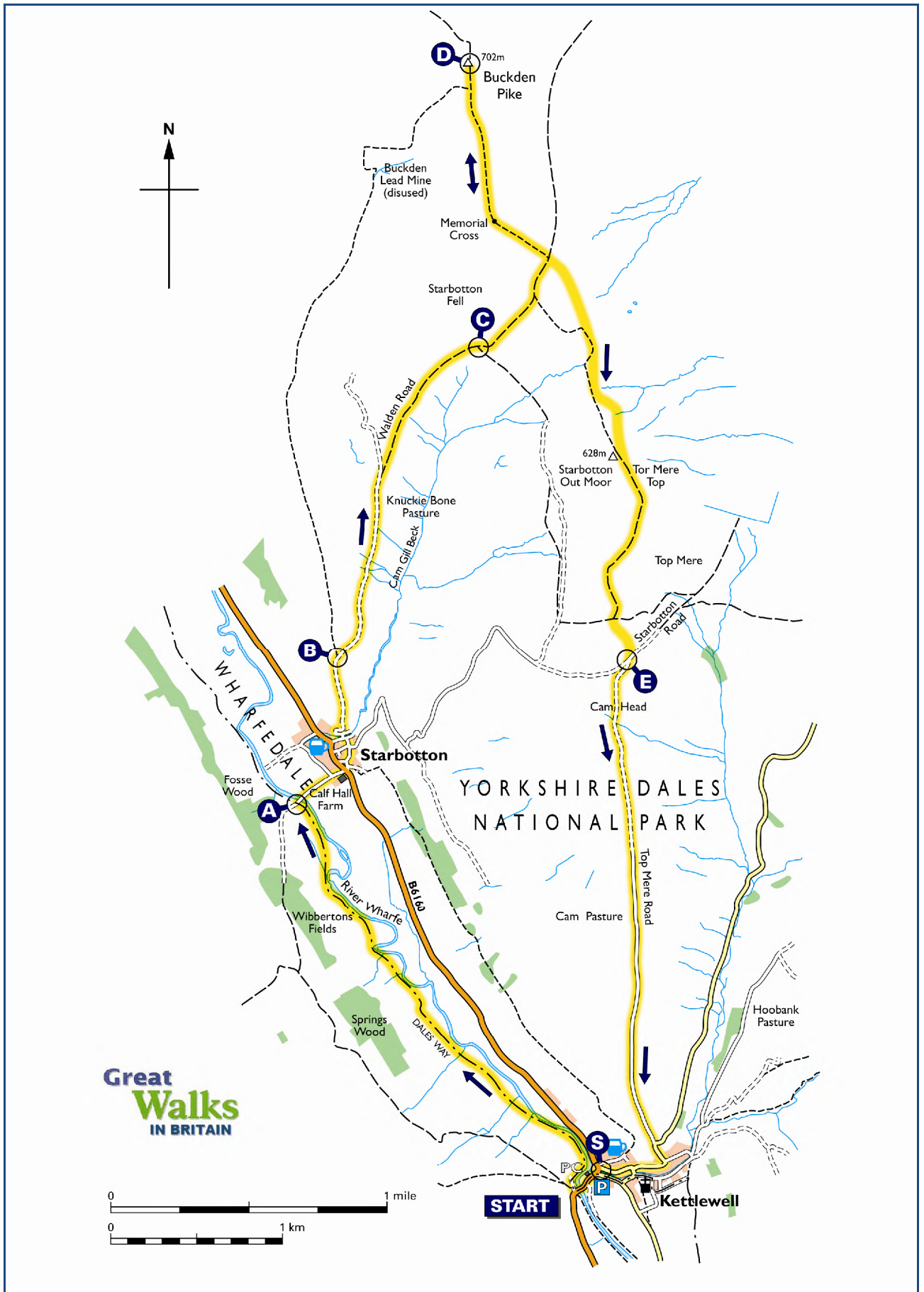
Just to the south of the Buckden Pike Trig Point stands a lonely memorial. The stone cross, with aircraft parts embedded into its base commemorates the brave Polish crew of an R.A.F. bomber which crashed on this mountainside during the Second World War.

There was one survivor, Airman Joseph Fusniak, whose story can be read on the Buckden Pike web site at www.BuckdenPike.co.uk.

Over the decades many walkers have gazed out from the summit of Buckden Pike and wondered at the bravery of the wartime aircrews,

BUCKDEN PIKE G.P.S. WAYPOINTS

WAYPOINT NAME	MAP REF	CO-ORDINATES	ELEVATION: Metres
BUC S	S	SD 96800 72290	204
BUC A	A	SD 95110 74457	213
BUC B	B	SD 95323 75290	326
BUC C	C	SD 96148 77130	562
BUC D	D	SD 96078 78780	702
BUC E	E	SD 97033 75295	517



MAP LEGEND					
	Great Walks route		Church with tower		Spot height - metres
	M6 Motorway		Church with spire		Information centre
	A23 Main road		Other place of worship		Parking
	B2116 Secondary road		Cathedral / Abbey		Public convenience
	Minor road		Building		Public house
	Other road		Built up area		Picnic site
	Track		Woodland		Camp site
	Footpath		Sand, shingle or mud		Major tourist feature
	Bridleway		Water feature		Other tourist feature
	National trail				
	Railway				

Safety First

Safety should always be your first priority in planning and undertaking a walk, whether on your own or leading a group. Please read these Safety First and Walking Our Routes notes.

Lead a group of other walkers only if you have leadership and navigational experience adequate for the 'worst case' conditions which may be encountered on the particular walk, bearing in mind the terrain, possible weather and navigational demands.

Weigh up the capabilities of your party, in terms of fitness and walking speed. Adjust your time expectations accordingly.

Ensure all your party are adequately clothed for the weather and conditions. Footwear is particularly important. Clothing must protect against cold, wet or strong sun according to the time of year.

Emergencies are quite rare, but it is essential to think ahead about what to do if someone in your party sustains an injury. Will you have a First Aid kit? Is there a qualified First Aider in the party? How could help be summoned in a serious eventuality?

Refreshment, particularly water, can be vital. Dehydration in hot summer conditions can be rapid, and frequent intake of fluids is essential.

On tougher walks it is a good idea to tell someone where you are planning to go – and when you expect to be back. Remember - mobile phones often lose reception in mountainous or isolated areas.

All our walks use legitimate routes: Public Rights of Way, Public Footpaths, Bridleways, Permissive Paths, Access Land, Byways and Roads.

Road walking calls for particular care. When there is no defined footpath or verge wide enough for safe walking it is usually best to walk on the right – facing oncoming traffic. An exception may be a tight bend, where walkers would be more visible on the left.

Occasionally you may find a public footpath blocked or unuseable. It is perfectly in order to take the shortest available diversion without damaging crops, perhaps around a field margin.

It is courteous to close gates after passing through, sometimes even if the gate was open when you arrived – particularly if it is obvious livestock may escape.

Mutual respect for farm animals is to be encouraged! Don't frighten or annoy them, but equally don't put your party members in danger or discomfort. You certainly wouldn't be the first walkers to go round the outside of a field of frisky bullocks.

Dogs should always be kept on a lead anywhere near farm animals, and under close supervision elsewhere in the countryside.

Walking Our Routes

Our walks are designed to be negotiated using the route directions in conjunction with the map section provided. We suggest walkers also take the Ordnance Survey Explorer or Outdoor Leisure map recommended for each walk.

On mountain, moorland and open heathland walks it is **ESSENTIAL** to have navigational expertise and tools, including the recommended Ordnance Survey map(s).

Take care to observe any cautions in the route description; exposed paths, areas liable to flooding etc.

Consider conditions before setting off. Will heavy rain have made a water meadow impassable? Will frost or snow make a path slippery?

When navigating the route look for clues to confirm you are in the right place. Are map features where you would expect on the ground? Are features mentioned in the text where expected? If you suspect you may have taken a wrong turn, take action sooner rather than later. It is better to re-trace to a known point rather than carry on regardless with the possibility of becoming increasingly confused.

All our routes are carefully checked before publication, but features can change on the ground – sometimes surprisingly quickly. Footpaths may be re-routed, buildings can appear or change significantly and these days pub names seem to change frequently.

The approximate time given for each walk is based on an average walking speed of 2.5 miles per hour (4 km/hour), plus an allowance for ascent, descent and any difficult terrain.

Total ascent is the approximate total ascent over the whole walk.

GPS users can enter in the waypoints provided in each of our walk reports. It is important to read our guide **Introducing GPS for Walkers**, available as a PDF file from the Great Walks in Britain web site.

Remember that GPS is a great navigational tool, but only one of those available to the navigator. Never dispense with conventional map and compass – and the training and skills to use them, especially on mountain, moorland or open heathland walks.

TOUGHNESS RATINGS

Most of our **Yorkshire Dales** routes can be undertaken by reasonably fit walkers able to utilise the map segments and our recommended Ordnance Survey maps, together with the route guidance notes.

The toughest walks should be undertaken or led only by experienced mountain walkers with navigational expertise. Always consider recent and forecast weather.

Each walk has been allocated a **Toughness Rating**:

1. Easier walks with modest ascent and generally on well defined paths. There may be stiles or narrow gateways to negotiate.
2. Routes which are more demanding. They may include more ascent and possibly paths which are looser or more difficult underfoot.
3. More strenuous walks. There may be prolonged steep ascents, and perhaps several ascents over the whole walk. Conditions may be challenging underfoot.
4. The toughest walks, requiring considerable fitness and navigational experience. There may be prolonged steep ascents. The ability to navigate by compass may be essential.

Toughness Ratings are allocated in the context of the terrain in the edition area. For example a walk rated as demanding in Cambridgeshire may be equivalent to an easier or moderate route in the Yorkshire Dales..